

## ALBANIAN NATION, EMERGING FROM CHRYSALIS, WANTS KING

Having Been Denied Autonomy by the Ottoman Empire,  
This Balkan People Is Now Considering Possible  
Candidates for Ruler, Among Them Prince  
Waldemar, of Denmark, and Don  
Aladro, Marquis of Castriotis.

From the witches' cauldron known as the Eastern Question, which is now once more boiling over, causing political and economic disturbances in all parts of the world, there will presently emerge another Balkan kingdom, namely, that of Albania. The situation in connection with the war now being waged against Turkey is a kaleidoscope, changing almost from day to day, and so full of surprises of one kind and another, that no one, not even the most sagacious and experienced statesman, can predict with any degree of assurance the ultimate outcome of the present imbroglio. The only thing that seems fairly certain, and which is universally accepted as such, is the organization of Albania into a kingdom, nominally subject to Ottoman suzerainty.

## A STRUGGLE FOR HOME RULE.

It is a struggle which has differed from that of the other Balkan States, a fact to which careful consideration must be accorded in order to understand the situation. In the case of Rumania, Servia, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Greece, the fight for national independence was embittered by religious fanaticism, and was always directed toward complete emancipation from Moslem rule. In Albania, on the other hand, the struggle has been merely for home rule, under the suzerainty of the Sublime Porte. With more than two-thirds of the population professing a particularly broad and tolerant form of Islamism, and the remainder of the people pretty equally divided among the Roman Catholic and Greek Catholic churches, there has been little or no question of religious fanaticism in their nationalist movement. In fact, the Albanians, Christians as well as Moslems, have all along professed their preference for the sovereignty of the Sultan to that of any European power, and have been proud to consider themselves as constituting one of the principal bulwarks of the Ottoman Empire. The only thing that they have demanded is complete autonomy—that they should be left free to follow their tribal customs and to live in conformity with their ancient traditions; that whatever tribute was required of them should be collected and transmitted by their own chieftains, and not by the Turkish tax-gatherers, and that no attempt should be made to absorb their nationality into the other races that go to make up the Turkish Empire.

The condition of Albania has always depended upon the amount of interference by the Imperial authorities. When the Albanians have been left alone they have shown themselves the most loyal subjects of the Sultans—so much so that the latter have often confided the safety of themselves and of their courts to bodyguards composed of and commanded by Albanians. The Albanian bodyguards of the Padishahs at Constantinople have indeed played a notable role in Turkish history. On the other hand, whenever intervention has broken out in Albania it has invariably been caused by imprudent Ottoman governors who have attempted to bring about an amalgamation of the Albanians with the remainder of the empire.

This was the mistake made by the Young Turk party after extorting an enforcement of the constitution from the reluctant Sultan Abdul Hamid, and it is in consequence thereof that Albania has been in a state of rebellion ever since.

For centuries the Albanians had been without an alphabet, their history, their traditions and their epic poems being transmitted from generation to generation by word of mouth. Even their very laws were unwritten, and all the more severely applied and more loyally honored on this account. During the last few years there has been a powerful movement on the part of the leading Albanians, not only in the province itself, but also among those settled abroad—to endow the nation with a written language, the Latin alphabet being employed for the purpose.

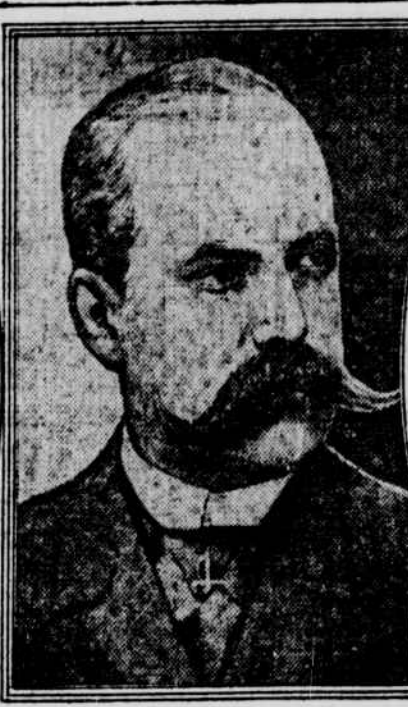
## CREATING A LANGUAGE.

Albanian dictionaries have been compiled, also grammars; while endeavors have been made to collect and print the most famous of the historical poems of the country. The money for this purpose has been largely subscribed in some of the leading educational centres of America, notably Boston. The so-called Alphabet Movement would never have been made the progress that it has had not been for American moral and financial support. The Young Turk party in power in Constantinople, from the time of the promulgation of the constitution four years ago until quite recently, vigorously opposed this movement, as calculated to encourage the nationalist particularism of the Albanians, and sought to enforce the Turkish—that is, the Arabic—alphabet, going to such lengths that the possession of books or pamphlets printed in Latin characters by the Albanians was cruelly punished as treason to the state. It is no exaggeration to state that the fighting of the last two years between the Albanians and the Turks has been largely over a question of alphabets.

Despite their illiteracy, the Albanian



DON JUAN ALADRO MARQUIS CASTRIOTIS



PRINCE NAPOLEON BONAPARTE



PRINCE WALDEMAR OF DENMARK

people have produced many very remarkable men. Some of the ablest ministers and grand viziers of the Sublime Porte have belonged to this race, while Mehmet Ali, the founder of the present dynasty of Egyptian Khedives, was also an Albanian. Perhaps the most eloquent and remarkable member of the Turkish Parliament since 1908 has been the Albanian Ismail Kamei Bey, and there are several other of his countrymen who may be regarded as his peers in intellectual force, in foreign culture and in knowledge of the world. To such an extent is this the case that whoever is chosen as sovereign of Albania, will experience no difficulty in finding suitable material for the instruments of his government.

## WHO WILL BE KING?

The question arises as to who that sovereign is to be. Many names have been mentioned in connection therewith. But if the Albanians had their own wishes in the matter they would undoubtedly choose Don Juan Aladro, Marquis of Castriotis, and the only living lineal descendant of Scanderbeg. The latter is the national hero of the Albanians, was their liberator from Turkish oppression in the fifteenth century, is credited with having slain no less than 800 Turks with his own hand, was acknowledged by Sultan Mohammed II as vassal, while his tomb at Alessio is still to this day an object of superstitious veneration on the part of Christians and Moslems alike in Albania, nay, even on the part of the Turkish President of the Committee of Union and Progress, which has its headquarters in Italy—a committee which has not only to a great extent directed the nationalist movement in Albania, but has won for it official and popular sympathy



PRINCE ALBERT GHIKA, PRETENDER TO ALBANIAN THRONE

abroad—Don Juan Aladro was offered by Sultan Abdul Hamid the Ottoman Governor Generalship of the provinces of North and South Albania in 1908. The Padishah hoped thereby to conciliate his turbulent Albanian subjects, for he was aware that most of the principal tribal chiefs of the Yabani had accorded their allegiance to Don Juan. But the latter, who is of Spanish birth and a retired minister plenipotentiary of the diplomatic service of Spain, in which country he was valuable money producing estates, declined the honor, on the ground that as lineal descendant and heir of Scanderbeg he could not demean himself by becoming a mere Turkish pacha.

Abdul Hamid thereupon set a price upon his head. But Don Juan, who has a palace in Naples, where he spends most of his time, and a fine house in Paris, in the Place Lamartine, managed to keep

clear of the Padishah's clutches, and now congratulates himself more than ever at having refused to permit himself to be taken in by what was, after all, merely a scheme on the part of the ex-Sultan to estrange him from the Albanian people. Most pretenders are needy, Don Juan is nothing of the kind. Like Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, he has a sufficiently large fortune of his own to be able to dispense with any civil list, and will therefore be under no necessity of making any demands upon the scanty resources of his future subjects in the way of taxes for his maintenance. Moreover, he is a man honored by many of the principal sovereigns of Europe with the grand crosses of their orders of knighthood, after having been accredited to their courts as Spanish envoy, and they would welcome his presence on the throne of Albania as a ruler pleasing alike to themselves and to the Albanian people. The only disadvantage under which he labors is that he is the last and sole surviving descendant of Scanderbeg—the only representative of the ancient Albanian house of Castriotis, that he has no children, and that when he dies his line will come to an end.

Of an entirely different character is the so-called "Prince" Albert Ghika, who has managed to obtain a good deal more publicity in the press on both sides of the Atlantic as a pretender to the Albanian throne than Don Juan Marquis Castriotis.

## DISCREDITED NAME.

The very mention of Albert Ghika's name in diplomatic circles in any of the capitals of Continental Europe is enough to give rise to derision, and it is inconceivable that he should ever have been taken seriously by any great newspaper. For

For Centuries Albania Has Been Without an Alphabet,  
and in Endeavoring to Create a Written Language  
Aroused the Opposition of the Young Turks,  
Who Believed This Would Encourage  
the Nationalist Movement.

he is not an Albanian, but a Rumanian, and until quite recently was wholly ignorant of the language. In all his life he has not spent more than a couple of weeks in the country, and then only in some coast towns. He does not belong to the historic Rumanian house of Ghika, but to an obscure and bourgeois family of the same name at Jassy, where his brother Edward is one of the municipal councillors, and it is hardly necessary to add that his title of prince is wholly bogus. He has more than once been involved in trouble with the Rumanian police, not for political shortcomings, but for ordinary offences against the law of the land; has been twice married and divorced by his respective wives after having completely ruined them financially. His third wife was fortunate enough to secure an annulment of her marriage before he could get hold of her property, while his fourth wife, an Australian girl with some money, of the name of Margaret Dowling, whom he married in London, has been robbed of every penny, and is now reduced to keeping a glove shop in Paris for a living. Albert Ghika is a typical adventurer, with such plausible manners that he was able to ingratiate himself with Don Jaime, the Carlist pretender to the throne of Spain.

## THE TWO PRETENDERS.

When Don Jaime, who is a colonel of Russian cavalry, was sent by the Czar as one of the delegates at the inauguration of the university at Jassy, he took Albert Ghika along with him, and did not realize the mistake which he had made until Ghika, when following Don Jaime to King Charles's palace at Bucharest for the reception of the foreign representatives, was barred at the gates by order of that monarch. Miss Dowling may be said to have married him with her eyes open, for on the eve of her marriage not only the Turkish Embassy in London, but likewise the Rumanian envoy there, a scion of the noble house of Ghika, published statements in the London newspapers pronouncing Albert Ghika to be a fraud in every sense of the word. Despite his numerous letters to the press and his ridiculous manifestos printed in foreign newspapers, he has not the slightest prospect of securing the throne of Albania. None of the great powers would tolerate for one moment his pretensions, while if he were to make any attempt to assume sovereignty over the Albanians they would quickly fulfill their oft repeated threat of slicing off his ears.

With regard to the candidature of Prince Louis of Italy, Duke of the Abruzzi, to which some attention has been accorded in this country, it would not meet with the approval of Austria, which,

in spite of the vastly improved relations between the two countries, could not afford to permit a sovereign of Italian birth commanding what is virtually the entrance to the Adriatic, which is the Dual Monarchy's only outlet to the Mediterranean and to the high seas.

## A FRENCH POSSIBILITY.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte would have no such objections and would be supported by France, which would find means of getting rid of the chief of that imperialist party which is bent on the overthrow of the republic. But it is inconceivable that Prince Napoleon and his wife, Princess Clementine of Belgium, who have spent such large sums of her money in the promotion of his French pretensions, should be willing to abandon all prospects of the restoration of the empire on the banks of the Seine for the sake of an Albanian throne, while it is equally difficult to believe that the Bonapartists would permit the prince, for whom they have made so many sacrifices, to desert them.

What is definitely more probable is the selection of some scion of that house of Denmark, which has already provided another Balkan nationality—namely, Greece—with a dynasty. Prince Waldemar of Denmark, brother of King George of the Hellenes, and who at the instance of his brother-in-law, the late Czar Alexander III, declined the vacant throne of Bulgaria in 1887, might be willing to become King of Albania at the instance of the great powers of Europe. As a brother of the widowed Empress of Russia and of Queen Alexandra of England, well thought of by Germany, Austria and Italy, he would possibly prove a suitable choice. The fact that he, like his brother, the King of Greece, is a Lutheran, would remove any danger of that jealousy on the part of the Greek-Catholic Albanians which would be inevitably aroused if a Roman Catholic prince, such as Prince Napoleon, were elected, while the Tabari descendants of the ancient Illyrians would find it, like the Greeks, of political and even economic advantage to have as their ruler a prince who is closely related to nearly all the reigning houses of Europe.

In fact, the only two candidates that need really be seriously considered in connection with the throne of Albania are Don Juan Aladro, Marquis of Castriotis and the sole surviving direct descendant of Scanderbeg, and, secondly, Waldemar, the sailor Prince of Denmark, whose consort, now dead, was the clever and popular Princess Marie of Orleans-Bourbon and a daughter of the royal Duke of Chartres, who served on the staff of General McClellan during the War of the Union.

EX-ATTACHE  
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## THE ROSEATE CRANBERRY

Conditions Under Which It Is  
Cultivated Are Hard.

## PORTUGUESE HAVE A HAND

Next to Summer Boarders, It Is  
Most Profitable Thing in  
Cape Cod Region.

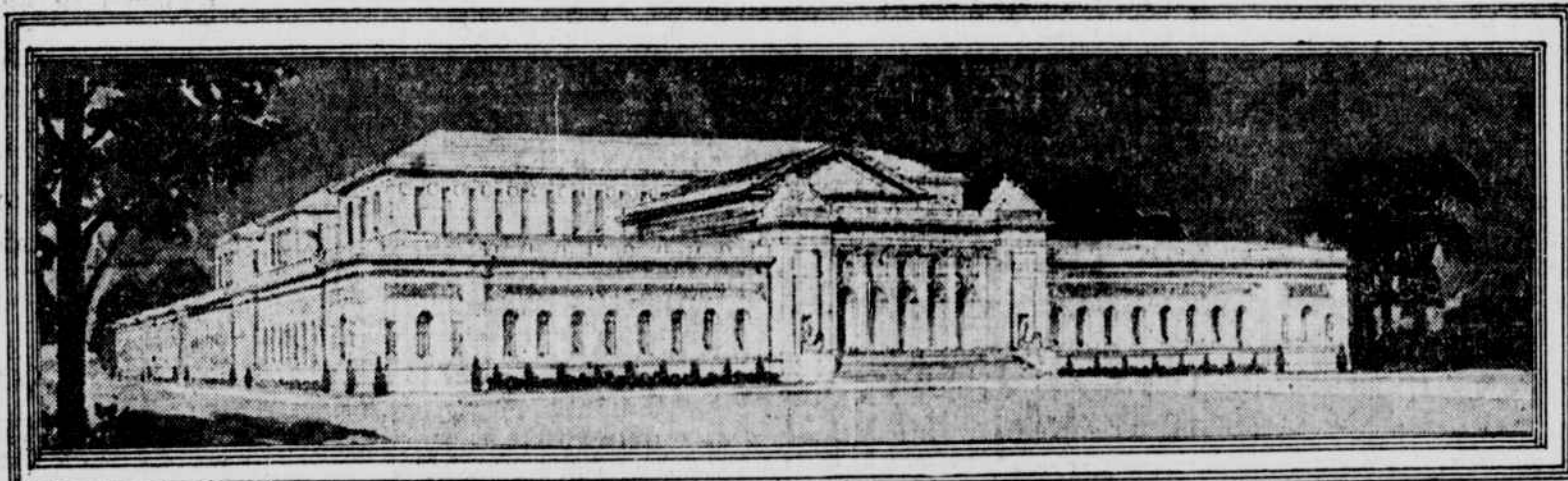
Herbert Randall gives in "The Hartford Courant" an interesting account of cranberry culture on Cape Cod, describing the work from the preparation of the bogs to the marketing of the berry. He writes as follows:

"A gentleman sitting beside me on a West Hartford car recently made the remark that he supposed all the cranberry bogs on Cape Cod were natural bogs. Within a week another has asked me 'About how high do cranberry bushes grow?' This has suggested to me that, as bogs are not built on upland fields and a cranberry is not an herb nor a house plant grown in hotbeds, a word about its culture might prove interesting to some of the readers of 'The Courant.' The cowberry, or mountain cranberry, which is a high bush berry, I have seen in Maine, and so far as is known the fruit is not essential to life. The small red, acid berry, round, bell-shaped or otherwise, which is distinguished by slender creeping vines which cover the entire surface of the ground, which bears a rose-colored nodding flower and which is especially indigenous to Cape Cod, Wisconsin and New Jersey and grows in many other parts of the country, is a lowland berry. Originally, as now, it was often found in the long grass bordering 'peat meadows,' and one is almost sure to find the vine in the vicinity of rabbit-foot clover.

## NEW ENGLAND PRODUCES MOST.

"The cultivation of the cranberry dates back to about 1850, but only in more recent years has the fact been demonstrated that the culture is profitable. Cape Cod has enjoyed the reputation of being a barren waste ever since the nation began speaking the truth, and that was away back before King Philip was a baby or Governor Carver sighted Provincetown. It took two hundred years to discover that these were worthy of becoming valuable agricultural lands. There are found water, soil and sand, the properties necessary to raising cranberries, and to-day 'Cape Cod folks' are prospered by the esteemed product of their soil. Now, don't get the idea on the start that it's salt water that is needed—this is necessary to the tautog, scouppang and 'Crie Erie,' but not to the cranberry grower.

"It is difficult to avoid too much detail for a short article on a long subject. Perhaps Barnstable and Plymouth counties are foremost in Southern Massachusetts in the business of cranberry culture. In 1905 the yield of Barnstable County alone amounted to 55,828 barrels, netting \$315,992, more than half the total crop of the state. In 1888 there were shipped from Cape Cod, including Plymouth County product, over the Old Colony Railroad 55,500 barrels of berries. Some wholesale dealers make a practice of sending a comparative statement of the yearly crops to growers. This shows in 1900, from reports made by eighty growers in New England, approximately 1,100,000 bushels; the product of New Jersey and Long Island, 550,000 bushels, and the West, 55,000 bushels, making a total of 1,705,000.



THE PROPOSED BUILDING OF THE MODERN HISTORIC RECORDS ASSOCIATION.

At the second annual meeting of the Modern Historic Records Association, held on Friday of last week at the National Arts Club, the designs for its first hall of records were exhibited and explained by Arthur Dillon, of Dillon,

Mass. The original word 'cranberry'—in the vernacular of many—has been changed to 'cranberry.' The origin of the name is thought by some to have arisen from the fact that just before expanding into flower the stem, calyx and petals resemble the neck, head and bill of a crane. Others claim the reasonable idea to be that the fruit derived its name from the fact that it grows in swamps and quarters which were frequented by cranes and that they were supposed to have fed on it.

## ALIEN RACE PICKS THE FRUIT.

"Never mind; it has now indirectly become fire and food for the masses, not altogether for the owners of bogs, but for the great multitude that threads the winding roads of Cape Cod woods and winds from early in September till into November. A great portion of the colony are from Southern Portugal—Cape Verde Isles. At the same time the industry affords such lucrative employment for the native that in many towns the opening of the fall term of school holds over to October in order that the children may take part in picking.

"This—the harvest season—is the most important one of the year. The length of the season is governed by weather conditions; a crop may ripen earlier or later, frost and rain may delay picking, but it is never delayed by sore toes, sore thumbs or lame backs; everybody turns to and hustles from the time the bog is dry enough to get on to till dusk; all day long they are on their knees with an individual concern that is interesting to watch. On the way to work in the morning it's a happy throng, singing and laughing. Breakfast has been cleared away early, as it always is in the country. All sorts of vehicles that have wheels are called into use (the horse doors are locked, sometimes, the barn never, on Cape Cod) and everybody piles in, even to the baby. It's life in the open, and the fatigue of the day is health. The foreign population camp in tents they may supply themselves, if they prefer privacy; but this exclusiveness is not essential to many, and lodging houses, fitted with comfortable bunks, are now usually supplied by owners, and here you find them herded, somewhat conspicuously, as is the case in our sleeping cars, and they're happy. Late into the evening you may hear the strum-p-strum of the guitar, but more often the strain of the guitar, accompanied by low singing and the mouth

organ. Card playing and pitching quots are popular games for rest hours, which include Sunday. Many of these transient pickers arrive in chartered vessels in Providence or New Bedford early in summer and return home when the season ends.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ARTIST.

"A cranberry bog, when the gathering season is in full swing, so far as I know, has not yet been immortalized by the painter, but there's opportunity for some amateur Turner. The habitual costume of the Portuguese woman is florid and gay, out at the ends enough to be picturesque on weekdays and spick and span on Sunday. This diversity of tone, together with the autumn landscape, the bordering bushes and woods, against the long, level stretches of bog, which is a rich maroon and smooth as a parlor carpet; the regularity of lines of pickers dominated by irregularity and tangle of color and shape, bronzed faces—everything, makes a wonderful picture. Once I have seen grouped on a hundred-acre bog one thousand pickers, so I was told. I did not count them. The work goes on very quietly, seldom any one speaking in loud tones. Just the little gossip of the town flutters about, but all are at work, and they must do it well, each attending to his or her allotted portion, marked by white lines drawn by the 'boss' about three feet apart, across the section for picking.

"There is a constant inflowing line to the upland, or some place near by where the bogs are emptied into boxes, a check being given for each by the tally-keeper, and each pail, of uniform size, must be full and free from vines and dirt. Each check represents a fixed value, and may be used at the stores or cashed at banks, and these, as circulating medium of the community, may be strolling about far into spring before all have been redeemed.

"The berries are stored in barns, where screening goes on, by use of machines and by hand, preparatory to ship-

ment. The source of profit from the cranberry crop of Cape Cod, for the native, supplements returns from the 'summer people' beautifully, quite as favorably as does the same supplement the turkey to its or her allotted portion, managed by white lines drawn by the 'boss' about three feet apart, across the section for picking. The use of machines in picking is forbidden by many owners of bogs, but they are coming more and more into

general use, probably because of increase of magnitude of the business, and because crops must be gathered before the frost, and the machine greatly multiplies the capacity for the work. Objections are that they tear and uproot the vines, they do not pick with the cleanliness of hand and bruise the berry, causing decay. The picker must furnish his own machine, the price of which, if now unchanged, is \$5. This is a universal commodity of trade in general stores of the towns near at hand.

## INSTALLING A BOG.

"Working backward now, as I have done, we come to the preparing and planting the bog. The 'putting in' of a cranberry bog is a craft all its own. Many bogs are failures because of the foundation work being entrusted to inexperienced men; there is a series of faults any one of which is sufficient to hamper success; so does the whole management, from start to finish, call for ability of high degree, good generalship, or a slump is the rule, as in every other enterprise.

"The plant grows in a wide variety of soils, but the character of the soil governs the character of the fruit in a great measure, and the amount of product, of course. Too rich and too moist bottom yields a heavy growth of vines, but less fruit. Weeds, too, which greatly endanger the berry, abound in this soil, and it is expensive work to eradicate them. The most productive bogs have been installed in cedar and laurel swamps, where is usually found peat bottom. Trees are cut down and the stumps dug up and carried away. This is heavy work, dynamite being used, and the horsepower stump puller, which rips things in a wonderful way with comparative ease. With stumps, scythes, shrubs and bushes are cleared, then the network of roots; the land is levelled, and must not sag; ditches for drainage are dug, their sides turfed. When grading is complete then comes the sanding. This is important work, dry sand being evenly distributed to the depth of five or six inches—so it is necessary to have a sandhill near by if possible. The sand is ruled off into squares some twelve to fourteen inches, and at the crossing points vines are set. The 'cuttings' must penetrate the undersoil. This work of planting goes on in May and June, and if the bog is dry the ditches must be filled for moisture. So far the cost has

been on an average, if the work is thoroughly done, from \$400 to \$500 an acre—probably nearer \$500.

## VIGILANCE THE WATCHWORD.

"Constant care to keep weeds out must follow, especially for the next three years, and always; but finally the vines attain such growth that, with a little work on the part of the caretakers, the weeds are choked.

"The third year yields a partial crop, the fourth a good one, and so on. Cranberry growing is a hazardous business, and a paying one. Nature supplies her usual number of enemies, but generally it's the survival of the fittest. Worms in the bloom, dry weather, and frosts convene to create havoc; water is the great preventive here; thus it becomes necessary, in order to insure prosperity, that there should be swamp streams that may be dammed, to create a head of water from somewhere must be held at command by the flush boards, detained for immediate use, for destroying pests, and to ward off threatening frosts, but if used too often the berry becomes soft and does not 'stand up' in the market. The bog must be flooded in winter, and here care must be exercised lest the water, accumulating under the foot, lift the roots of the plant out of the ground.

"There are several well defined types of cranberries—the Early Black, the Bugle, the Bell, the Howe, etc. The importance of the industry of cranberry growing has become such in the State of Massachusetts that the Agricultural Experiment Station at Amherst has taken up experimental work for the purpose of solving some of the problems which confront growers. This investigation is in charge of Professor Franklin. A bog of about fifteen acres has been purchased at East Wareham and a building suited to his use built near by. In connection the United States Weather Bureau has equipped a station; during the harvesting season daily reports of weather indications are forwarded and posted especially for those interested in berry growing; watchmen are at hand during the night, and if the thermometer reaches the danger point flush boards are drawn and bogs covered.

"Miles of swamp and meadows are being bought up by rich syndicates all through Southern Massachusetts, where adapted to the cultivation of cranberries, and again, as always, the old Bay State invites men of industry to give her greatness."

An oyster's life is twelve years.

## THE UNSPOILED ISLES

The Scilly Group, Southwest of  
England.

## PERIL OF THE MARINER

But a Land of Beguiling, of Soft  
Airs and Flowers, Far from  
the Beaten Track.

People sometimes apply the term Lyonesse to the whole of Cornwall, which is a mistake. If there ever was such a land at all it lay westward of Cornwall, and the Scilly Isles are its relics. The name of Arthur plays like a lambent light about the district; but the period at which the Scillies were separated from the mainland must be far beyond the reach of history, which in England can only explore about two thousand years backward. The Lyonesse of romance extended to the southwest of Land's End, and was connected in race and legend with Geoffrey of Brittany. As a matter of fact, the tradition has no satisfactory basis, though there are traces of submergence in Mount's Bay, and the merged forests in Mount's Mount, presents that rock as having once stood in the centre of woodland. In reality the islands are the last upheavals of that backbone of granite which is so impressive on Dartmoor and which again comes into notice on the Bodmin Moors. True, ocean depths do not begin till far beyond the islands, so that in its relation to the great submarine platform Scilly may be considered structurally attached to Britain, as Britain is to the Continent. Some portion of the vanished region may have survived, adjoining the coasts of Mount's Bay, till the year 1609, when, according to the Saxon chronicle, Lyonesse was destroyed in a great tempest.

## TRADITIONS OF NORSE INVASION.

When we come to the genuine history of Scilly there are some interesting things to notice. The islands seem to have been used as a penal settlement in Roman times; and in the sixth century they gave a home to the Welsh St. Samson, who became Bishop of Dol, and who has left footprints in Guernsey as well as in Devon and Cornwall. The tale of Samson is now uninhabited, but it may have had a fairly large population when the saint established an oratory here; there are many traces of early occupation. To many it is still more interesting as the home of Walter Besant's Armored. Early in the tenth century Athelstan made a conquering expedition through Cornwall, and is said to have spied these tales from the high land at St. Buryan—the day must have been uncommonly clear. He vowed to build a church on the spot where he stood if he returned safely from their conquest. Probably he met with little resistance on the islands, where he is supposed to have founded Treco Abbey. Later, in the same century, a Scillonian had the credit of converting the fierce King Olaf of Norway. After harrying the coast of Britain and Ireland into what is now the harbor of St. Mary's. A hermit here gave him timely warning of a mutiny that was about to take place among his own troops; he crushed the revolt, but was severely wounded. Carried to the monastery at Treco, he was there nursed into health and Christianity, consenting to receive baptism. Perhaps not then, but certainly later, Treco belonged to the wealthy

Abbey of Tavistock, but in 1539 it passed to the Crown.

When Cornwall was created a duchy Scilly had not been included. At the time of the Civil War the Isles were held for the king by Sir John Grenville, who was clearly a worthy member of a noble family. The privatizing kind of warfare that he maintained proved very annoying to the shipping of the Commonwealth, and at last Admiral Blake was sent against him. Blake was too big a man to be resisted, and the islands were taken. The Dutch had previously endeavored to treat with Grenville, and would have richly rewarded him had he chosen to deliver the Isles into their hands; but though a foe of the existing government, Grenville was loyal to his country and would not deal with her enemies.

## ISLES OF ENCHANTMENT.

During the French wars at the beginning of the last century Scilly was a general rendezvous for British shipping awaiting convoy. The rest of her history is chiefly associated with shipwrecks and with the flowers. The shipwrecks make a formidable list and are frequently added to. The flowers give us a record of small beginnings and wonderful success, together with recent severe stress of competition, difficulties and high cost of freight. It was in 1831 that the islands became the property of Augustus Smith, who was their great benefactor. He suggested that the islanders should try what they could do in raising early flowers for the London markets, and it is said that the first few blooms were dispatched in a hat box. Since then as many as a hundred tons have been shipped from St. Mary's in a single week.

There was a spice of romance about the manner in which the island gained its cable connection with the mainland. The government was taking over the monopoly of the telegraphs and was buying all existing lines, and it seems that an imaginary line from Scilly to the Cornish coast was faked up so cleverly as to deceive the government agents. But perhaps it is better not to revive sleeping ghosts of that nature; we do not wish to think of trickery in connection with these Isles of the Blessed. They lie, too far to be spotted by the tripper, in a delightful atmosphere of their own, invigorated with the freshest breath of the Atlantic and lapped in the warm, caressing waves of the Gulf Stream. They are a land of dreams and sweet bewitchment; at times they can become a haunt of tempest and terror. Very little frost comes to chill them, and they are not high enough to draw much rainfall; their climate, their interminable seas, their birds and fisher folk and flowers, their traditions, their remoteness and peace, are all permanent things of delight.—London Globe.

## IRRELEVANT TESTIMONY.

At a term of the Circuit Court in Iowa not long ago a "horse case" was on trial and a well known horseman was called as a witness.

"You saw this horse?" asked counsel for the defendant.

"Yes, sir, I—"

"What did you do?"

"I opened his mouth to ascertain his

age, and I said to him, 'Old sport, there's

a lot of life left in you yet.'"

Whereupon counsel for the other side

entered a vigorous protest. "Stop!" he

cried. "Your honor, I object to any con-

versation carried on between the witness

and the horse when the plaintiff was not

present!"—The Green Bag.

Teacher—Tommy, you are too great an

idiot. Do you know what becomes of

people who won't work? . . .

Tommy—Yesum. They get supported

by the rest of the family.—Judge.